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## <del>^</del> WHEN KNIGHTHOOD

Happening In the Reign of His August Majesty King Henry the Eighth

Rewritten and Rendered Into Modern English From Sir Edwin Caskoden's Memoir

EDWIN CASKODEN [CHARLES MAJOR] Copyright, 1898 and 1901, by the Bowen-Merrill Compa 

CHAPTER XX-CONTINUED.

Mary would orten pout for days togetner and pretend illness. Upon one occasion she kept the king waiting at her door all the morning, while she, having slipped through the window, was riding with some of the young peopie in the forest. When she returned -through the window-she went to the door and scolded the poor old king for keeping her waiting penned up in her room all the morning. And he apologized!

She changed the dinner hour to noon in accordance with the English custom, and had a heavy supper at night. when she would make the king gorge himself with unhealthful food and coax him "to drink as much as Brother Henry," which invariably resulted in Louis de Valois finding lodgment under the table. This amused the whole court except a few old cronies and physicians, who, of course, were scandalized beyond measure. She took the king on long rides with her on cold days, and would jolt him almost to death and freeze him until the cold tears streamed down his poor pinched nose, making him feel like a half animated icicle and wish that he were one, in fact.

At night she would have her balls and keep him up till morning, drinking and dancing, or trying to dance, with her until his poor old heels, and his head, too, for that matter, were like to fall off; then she would slip away from him and lock herself in her room. December, say I, let May alone; she certainly will kill you. Despite which sound advice, I doubt not December will go on coveting May up to the end of the chapter, each old fellow-being such a fine man for his age, you understand-fondly believing himself an exception. Age in a fool is damnable.

Mary was killing Louis as certainly and deliberately as if she were feeding him slow poison. He was very weak and decrepit at best, being compelled frequently upon public occasions, such, for example, as the coronation tournament of which I have spoken, to lie upon a couch.

Mary's conduct was really cruel, but then, remember the provocation, and that she was acting in self defense. All this was easier for her than you might suppose, for the king's grasp of power, never very strong, was beginning to relax even what little grip it had. All faces were turned toward the rising sun, young Francis, duke of for. I am so full of other faults that if Angouleme, the king's distant cousin, I have not that there is no good in who would soon be king in Louis' place. As this young rising sun, himself vastly smitten with Mary, openly encouraged her in what she did, the courtiers of course followed suit, and the old king found himself surrounded by a court only too ready to be amused by his lively young queen at his expense.

This condition of affairs Mary welcomed with her whole soul, and to accent it and nail assurance, I fear, played ever so lightly and coyly upon the heartstrings of the young duke, which responded all too loudly to her velvet touch and almost frightened her to death with their volume of sound later on. This Francis d'Augouleme, the dauphin, had fallen desperately in love with Mary at first sight, something against which the fact that he was married to Claude, daughter of Louis, in no way militated. He was a very distant relative of Louis, going away back to St. Louis for his heirship to the French crown. The king had daughters in plenty, but, as you know, the gallant Frenchmen say, according to their law salic. "The realm of France is so great and glorious a heritage that it may not be taken by a woman." Too great and glorious to be taken by a woman, forsooth! France would have been vastly better off had she been governed by a woman now and then, for a country always pros pers under a queen.

Francis had for many years lived at court as the recognized heir, and, as the custom was, called his distant cousin Louis "Uncle." "Uncle" Louis in turn called Francis "Ce Gros Garcon," and Queen Mary called him "Monsieur mon beau fils," in a mock motherly manner that was very laughable. A mother of eighteen to a "good boy" of twenty-two! Dangerous relationship! And dangerous indeed it would have been for Mary had she not been as pure and true as she was willful and impetuous. "Mon beau fils" allowed neither his wife nor the respect he owed the king to stand in the way of his very marked attention to the queen. his permission to do anything-to est His position as heir and his long residence at court, almost as son to Louis, gave him ample opportunities for pressing his unseemly suit. He was the first to see Mary at the meeting place father having stolen it from her when this side of Abbeville, and was the she was an infant; so all the king could king's representative on all occasions.

"Beau fils" was rather a handsome fellow, but thought himself vastly handsomer than he was, and had some talents, which he was likewise careful to estimate at their full value, to say the least. He was very well liked by women, and in turn considered himself irresistible. He was very impressionable to feminine charms, was at heart a libertine, and, as he grew older, became a debauchee whose memory will taint France for centuries to come.

Mary saw his weakness more clearly than his wickedness, being blinded to the latter by the veil of her own innocence. She laughed at and with him, and permitted herself a great deal of fortably ensconced in our old quarters, his company-so much, in fact, that I he preferring them to much more pre- Times.

grew a little jealous for Brandon's sake, and, if the truth must be told, for the first time began to have doubts of her. I seriously feared that when Louis should die Brandon might find a much more dangerous rival in the new king, who, although married. would probably try to keep Mary at his court even should he be driven to the extreme of divorcing Claude as Claude's father had divorced Joan.

I believed, in case Mary should voi untarily prove false and remain to France either as the wife or the mistress of Francis, that Brandon woul. quietly but surely contrive some men to take her life, and I hoped he would. I spoke to my wife, Jane, about the queen's conduct, and she finally admitted that she did not like it, so I, unable to remain silent any longer, determined to put Mary on her guard, and for that purpose spoke very freely to her on the

"Oh, you goose!" she said laughingly. 'He is almost as great a fool as Hen-Then the tears came to her eyes and half angrily, half hysterically shaking me by the arm, she continued: "Do you not know? Can you not see that I would give this hand or my eyes, almost my life, just to fall upon my face in front of Charles Brandon at this moment? Do you not know that a woman with a love in her heart such as I have for him is safe from every one and everything; that it is her sheet anchor, sure and fast? Have you not wit enough to know that?"

"Yes, I have." I responded, for the time completely silenced. With her favorite tactics she had, as usual, put me in the wrong, though I soon came again to the attack.

"But he is so base that I grieve to ee you with him."

"I suppose he is not very good," she responded, "but it seems to be the way of these people among whom I have fallen, and he cannot harm me."

"Oh, but he can! One does not go near smallpox, and there is a moral contagion quite as dangerous, if not so perceptible, and equally to be avoided. It must be a wonderfully healthy moral nature, pure and chaste to the core, that will be entirely contagion proof and safe from it."

She hung her head in thought and then lifted her eyes appealingly to me. "Am I not that, Edwin? Tell me! Tell me frankly; am I not? It is the one thing of good I have always striven me." Her eyes and voice were full of tears, and I knew in my heart that I stood before as pure a soul as ever came from the hand of God.

"You are your majesty; never doubt." I answered. "It is pre-eminently the one thing in womanhood to which all mankind kneels." And I fell upon my knee and kissed her hand with a sense of reverence, faith and trust that has never left me from that day to this. As to my estimate of how Francis would act when Louis should

die, you will see that I was right. Not long after this Lady Caskoden and I were given permission to return to England, and immediately prepared for our homeward journey.

As we left, Mary placed in my hands a letter for Brandon, whose bulk was so reassuring that I knew he had never been out of her thoughts. I looked at the letter a moment and said, in all seriousness, "Your majesty, had I not better provide an extra box for it?"

She gave a nervous little laugh, and the tears tilled her eyes as she whispered buskily: "I fancy there is one who will not think It too large. Goodby, goodby!" So we left Mary, fair, sweet girl queen, all alone among those terrible strangers. Alone with one little English maiden, seven years of age, Anne Boleyn.

> CHAPTER XXI. LETTERS FROM A QUEEN.

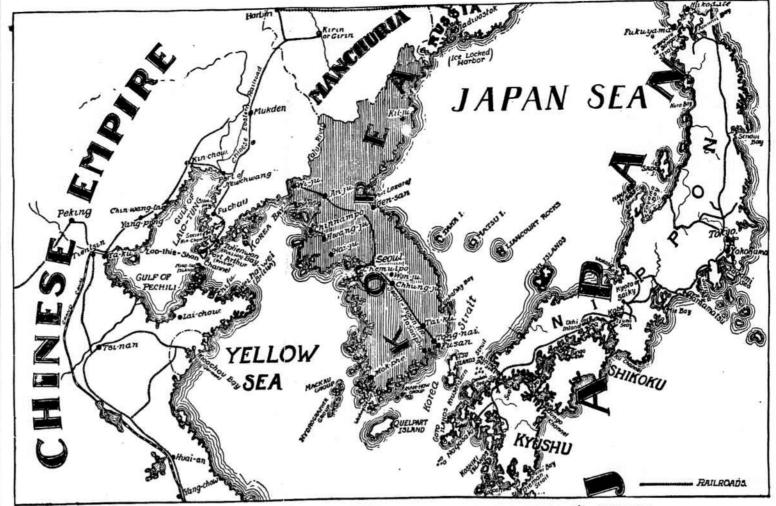
PON our return to England left Jane down in Suffolk with her uncle, Lord Bolingbroke, having determined never to permit her to come within sight of King Henry again if I could prevent it. I then went up to London with the twofold purpose of seeing Brandon and resigning my place as master of the dance.

When I presented myself to the king and told him of my marriage, he flew into a great passion because we had not asked his consent. One of his whims was that every one must ask or sleep or say one's prayers, especially to marry, if the lady was of a degree entitled to be a king's ward. Jane. fortunately, had no estate, the king's tle about our marriage was to grumble, which I let him do to his heart's con-

tent. "I wish also to thank your majesty for the thousand kindnesses you have shown me." I said, "and, although it grieves me to the heart to separate from you, circumstances compel me to tender my resignation as your master of dance." Upon this he was kind enough to express regret and ask me to reconsider, but I stood my ground firmly, and then and there ended my official relations with Henry Tudor for-

Upon taking my leave of the king I sought Brandon, whom I found com-

ver.



MAP OF KOREA, MANCHURIA AND JAPAN. THE FAR EAST'S ZONE OF TROUBLE.

The strong strategic point shown on the map is the Korean strait, which is dominated by Japan because of her strong fleet and her fortifications on the Tsu islands, midway between Japan and Korea. The strait at this point is only 100 miles wide, and communication by water between Viadivostok, on the north, and Port Arthur, on the West, is through it. Viadivostok is icobound in winter, but Russia's Chinese scaport. Port Arthur, is not. The Japanese wrested Port Arthur from China, but Russia and them evacuate. Port Arthur is one of the southern terraini of the Chinese Eastern railroad, which, running north, connects with the Transsiberian railroad, over which Russia's troops have been passing for weeks en route to Manchuria. The Japanese railroad from Fusan, Korea, to Seoul is being completed by the Japanese government for wartime use, and a Japanese road runs between Seoul and Chemulpo. The railroad from Seoul to Wiju is not ready for use. The Japanese have rail communication practically the entire length of their principal islands.

tentious apartments offered him in another part of the palace. The king had given him some new furnishings for them, and, as I was to remain a few days to attend to some matters of business, he invited me to share his comfort with him, and I gladly did so.

Those few days with Brandon were my farewell to individuality. Thereafter I was to be so mysteriously intermingled with Jane that I was only a part -and a small part at that, I fear -of two. I did not, of course, regret the change, since it was the one thing m life I most longed for, yet the period was tinged with a faint sentiment of pathos at parting from the old life that and been so kind to me and which I was leaving forever. I say I did not regret it, and, though I was leaving my old haunts and companions and friends so dear to me, I was finding them all again in Jane, who was friend well as wife.

Mary's letter was in one of my boxes which had been delayed, and Jane was to forward it to me when it should come. When I told Brandon of it, I swelt with emphasis upon its bulk, and he, of course, was delighted and i bud put the letter in the box, but there was something else which Mary had sent to him that I had carried with me. It was a sum of money sufficient to pay the debt against his father's estate and, in addition to buy some large tracts of land adjoining. Brandon did not hesitate to accept the money and seemed glad that it had come from Mary, she, doubtless, being the only person from whom

be would have taken it. One of Brandon's sisters had married a rich merchant at Ipswich, and another was soon to marry a Scotch gentleman. The brother would probably never marry, so Brandon would eventually have to take charge of the estates. In fact, he afterward lived there many years, and, as Jane and I had purchased a little estate near by. which had been generously added to by Jane's uncle, we saw a great deal of him. But I am getting ahead of my story again.

The D'Angouleme complication troubled me greatly, notwithstanding my faith in Mary, and although I had resolved to say nothing to Brandon about it a soon told him plainly what h thought and feared.

He replied with a low, contented ht

"Do not fear for Mary. I do not I hat young fellow is of different stuff. I know, from the old king, but I have all faith in her purity and ability to take care of herself. Before she left she promised to be true to me, whatever befell, and I trust her entirely. I am not so unhappy by any means as one would expect. Am I? And I was compelled to admit that he certainly was not.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Became Wood.

The following story is given us by centleman whose veracity we would not doubt. About six years ago in the fall a hunter shot a squirrel, which lodged between two small twigs, the size of a lead pencil. This being near of nearly 100,000. This, the Great Bear the man's house he watched the squir-rel each week. The first spring the rel each week. The first spring the wigs grew, and the squirrel remained in the position it lodged. The second cear the twigs, which had grown to be the size of a man's fingers, died, so did the limb die. The third year no change but during the fourth year the tail of the squirrel dropped off, and the man noted no change the fifth, but the sixth year he secured the limb and squirrel and found, to his surprise, that the squirrel had become a white oak bump. nder the microscope could be seen ne hairs in the wood. The places for he eyes and ears were perfect, and where the chin and forelegs had touch-I the twig it grew to them. The legs re intact, but the feet had disappear.
The body of the squirrel had ed. The body of the squirrel had grown to be about four inches in di-

What puzzled the gentleman who ive us this is, through what process ould the dead animal become wood?
As proof of the story, we can furnish
the name of the man who has the
'freak of nature' in his possession. who watched it from the time it lodged.—Smith's Grove (Ky.)

## Miscellancous Beading.

HISTORY OF THE QUARREL.

What Japan and Russia Wanted and Why They Could Not Agree.

It will be remembered that little Japan startled the whole world with the quickness and strength of her blows against the moribund Chinese empire, says the Eagle. She swept all before her and fully expected to reap her reward by annexing certain of the choice territory of China. Her "reward" consisted of holding a few second rate war vessels and the island of Formosa, for Russia stepped in and nullified the victory by compelling Japan to give up all her hard earned laurels.

Since that war Russia perpetrated one of the most collossal grabs in history. It 1895 Russia compelled Japan to give up Port Arthur, which controls the gateway to Peking, Manchuria and Mongolia. In 1897 Russia seized Port Arthur for her own. Three years later the Great Bear got a foothold in Manchuria, which covers 363,000 square miles, and has a population of 8,500,000. The Boxer uprising, which Japan de-

"CZAR OF THE EAST." Alexeieff vice admiral of Russia's navy, is the czar's right hand man in



VICEROY ALEXEIEFF. the far east. In Manchuria and Si beria he is in command of the army and

clares was fomented by Russia for th purpose of making this hold more certain, followed in the next year. Of course, Russia poured into the dissaid, was to protect her Siberian rail-

way and her interests along its route.

navy and at the head of civil affairs.

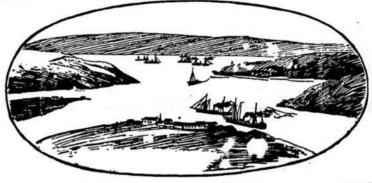
At the end of that same year, Russia obtained from China exclusive trading rights in Manchuria, and in 1902 further rights were ceded on the promise that Russia would evacuate the province within eighteen months. Russia reluctantly agreed to do, but she is there yet.

Last year Russia announced that she would not evacuate Manchuria unless more exclusive rights were givenpractically amounting to sovereignty Although Russia had gone on record that she would keep her promise, especially to Secretary Hay, she still refused and China was told that Russian troops would continue to hold all the important points in Manchurla until the demands were acceded to. The United States, Great Britain and Japan combined to hold China firm in her refusal, and succeeded. Russia poured

Russia, balked at last, made a promise to the world that she would evacu-These were not so stringent as her for-

more troops in, until her railway was square mile, or, in other words, Japan completely defended along its entire is like a huge and continuous village in our rural districts, spreading over all its land.

Every inch of Japanese soil is utilate Manchuria on October 8 last if she ized, and were the people like Amerigot some special privileges from China. cans, requiring a diversity and immensity of food products, they could



PORT ARTHUR, RUSSIA'S GREAT STRONGHOLD IN CHINA.

The Japanese bitterly resent the fact that Russia holds Port Arthur. They captured it from the Chinese, but Russia compelled them to evacuate because she wanted it berself. It is well fortified.

mer demands, but were too much for not live. As it is, Japan is a big im-China to grant, backed as she was by three great powers. The incoming tisans export \$115,000,000 worth of matroops and the fortifications going up terial each year, while its imports are caused China to protest against this about \$2,000,000 in excess of the foreaggression, but more troops and more

fortifications was the answer. The situation was then acute, but over to the Yalu river, dividing Manchuria and Korea, and built fortifications and established armed camps This clearly was a move to gain Korea and shut Japan from the continent. Japan always has considered Korea as under her especial protection, and rightly so. Japanese interests in Korea are far greater than those of any other country, and the Japs practically run the commercial interests there, although the biggest enterprises are un

der American control. Why should Japan want Korea? Japan is composed of many islan's nearest point between the two counsquare miles, and its population is 47,-

porter of food products. Its busy argoing figures. The fecundity of the Japs is well-

known, and it is imperative that more the climax came when Russia moved land be obtained. Already more than 1,000,000 of them live in Korea, China and the United States. Korea is large enough and sparsely settled enough to provide for 25,000,000 souls, living as they do in Japan.

Japan never really made any serious move to add Korea to the empire. The two peoples lived together in peace and concord and their habits and interests being similar, there was never any of that jealousy common to two different races abiding together. Korea is so necessary to Japan as a haven for its overflow population that it cannot permit Russia to annex it, aside from jutting out from the Korean coast the the menace politically. Russia always has and always will pursue a dog-intries being some sixty odd miles and the-manger policy. Wherever the only 150 miles between Korea and the Great Bear goes there is no room for tremendous force of men and gradualmain island of Japan. The area of other nationalities; the Jap, on the Japan (including Formosa) is 162,000 other hand, welcomes the white foreigners. The prospect of Manchuria 000,000. Here is a country the size of becoming annexed to Russia was bad California, the state having a popula- enough for Japan, for it menaced the tion of only 1,300,000. The density of future of the island empire, but the



VICEROY ALEXEIEFF AND PORT ARTHUR FORT.

In the upper picture are shown Viceroy Alexeieff, the "czar of the east," and his officers, while the lower picture is of a new Russian fort at Port Arthur. Alexeleff is the white bearded officer in a dark uniform at the head of the

in whole or in part, was something that could not be thought of for a moment. Then Korea is an important stepping stone to China, so Russia

What does Russia want of Korea? The master minds-and for ages the highest Russian ministers have been such-who planned that gigantic undertaking, the Trans-Siberian railway, probably mapped out, step by step the movements that have followed. They probably even included just such a war as is now in sight. Several pages might be covered with interesting narratives of this great project, for it certainly is one of the greatest things ever attempted in the world's history, including as it does the various ramifications into diplomacy, conquest and commercial activity, both on land and

The great railway is a fact; it extends from St. Petersburg across the plains of Russia over the mountains, through the dense forests and over the roling steppes of dreary Siberia: over gorges, around morasses, crosses rivers and lakes, winding through Manchuria to cover the best land, and circling at its extreme eastern end in order to cover the summer port of Vladivostock and the winter port of Port Arthur, and thus reaches the tributaries of the great Pacific.

Korea is like the hind leg of a rabbit, with Vladivostock at its top and Port Arthur at the gambrel joint, and the most important part of Japan at the toe. The broad and deep Yalu river separates Manchuria from Korea. The Russians have found that the Yalu is necessary to them. Vladivostock is now isolated from the main terminus of the great railway. The coast line of Korea, intervening between Vladivostock and Port Arthur, if Russian, would make the czar supreme on the western side of the Pacific. It would absolutely overawe Japan in the Japan and Yellow seas.

These are the big stakes being play-

THE JAPS AS SOLDIERS.

American Army Officers Think They

Are Superior to Russians. There is no doubt as to the sympathetic leaning of American army and navy officers towards Japan in the approaching war in the far east. The prevailing opinion among these high authorities on matters bellicose is unanimous it might also be said, on the subject of Japan's advantage over her great adversary, Russia, in the event of a short, sharp struggle. Should the war be prolonged the result is problematical, our officers think, but in its early stages Japan is picked as the de-

cided favorite. "I think there is no doubt that Japan's navy is superior in point of efficiency to that of Russia," said a high naval officer in discussing the situation, "although Russia has more ships and is stronger on paper in the matter of battleships. But we all know that the Jap is a better seaman and engineer than the Russian and everything goes to prove that he is better trained and disciplined. The ships of both natries, and in point of construction may be said to be about equal. All our information is to the effect that the Russian men of war, in engines and machinery, are in poor shape. This is because the Russian is not of a mechanical turn of mind, and has permitted the machinery to get in very much the same shape as the Spaniards allowed theirs to drift before the war with the

United States. "But it is in the men behind the guns that Japan finds her great superiority over Russia. I do not hesitate to say that one Jap is equal in fighting capacity to two Russians. So in the early part of the fighting I look to see Japan victorious. They will probably win the first sea fight and force the Russians to retreat from Port Arthur and Vladivostock. The Japs will then control the principal ports, which of course they will be called on to defend, This will prove a big task for the little brown men and promises eventually to wear them out. Russia, with her unlimited stock of troops, can mass a ly crush the invaders out, driving them to the very shores of the sea.

"The Japs will cripple Russia badly by putting the great Siberian railroad out of commission quickly, in my opin-

American army officers who were with the allied troops that marched to Pekin in 1900 have not yet ceased to talk of the wonderful performances of talk of the wonderful periodical to the Japs on that trip. The little brown men were the admiration of all the foreigners. Our own officers do not hesitate to say the Mikado's soldiers were the best on the ground during that memorable march on China's capital. The Japs seemed never to tire. They set the pace and the column of allies found it exceedingly difficult to keep up with it. At noon they squatted on the ground, took out their little packets of rice, ate them, and in 30 minutes were ready to press on. The terrific heat of the sun had apparently no effect upon them. At Pekin they did gallant and splendid work. The discipline was in striking contrast with the reckless and uncontrolled work of the Russians, who got beyond the control of their officers and indulged in shocking cruelties. the Japs on that trip. The little brown

on account of the showing of these two armies in 1900 the Japanese army is decidedly the favorite.—Washington orrespondence Atlanta Journal.

INGENIOUS FICTION.-In the United States the Mexican dollar has an exchange value of 90 cents. In Mexico the American silver dollar has the same value. On the frontier of the United States, where Texas joins Mexico, there are two saloons, one on each side of the frontier. A man buys a ten-cent dripk of whicky at the American saof the frontier. A man buys a ten-cent drink of whisky at the American saloon and pays for it with an American silver dollar in change. With this he crosses the border, goes into a Mexican saloon, hands over the Mexican dollar for a 10-cent drink and receives an American dollar in change. It is evident that the limit of his purchasing power is the length of time he can stand. He finally wakes up with a headache and the American dollar with headache and the American dollar with which he started. Who paid for the whisky?—London Daily Express.